Office of Communications • Mark Dallas Loeffler, Director 1700 N. Congress Ave. • Austin, TX 78701-1495 • 512-463-5339 • FAX: 512-475-1415

PRESS RELEASE

Patterson meets with Alamo caretakers

Daughters of the Republic of Texas President, Patterson discuss Alamo's future

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 25, 2011

Contact: Jim Suydam 512-463-2716 512-417-5382 jim.suydam@glo.texas.gov

AUSTIN — Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office, met Monday with the leader of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to discuss the future of the Alamo - the "Cradle of Texas Liberty."

Karen R. Thompson, president general of the 8,000-member Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and Patterson discussed the upcoming negotiations following the passage of legislation related to the operation and management of the Alamo by the 82 nd Texas Legislature in May.

"Commissioner Patterson and I had a very productive talk about the Alamo and its future," Thompson said. "I am confident that we will be able to work well with Commissioner Patterson and the Land Office to devise a contract for the Daughters' continued management of the Alamo."

Patterson said Monday's meeting was a good opportunity to meet with the Daughters of the Republic of Texas' leadership and talk about the future.

"The Daughters of the Republic of Texas certainly have the best interest of the Alamo at heart," Patterson said. "We look forward to working with them as we move into the next chapter of the Alamo's long and storied history."

Thompson said the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Land Office will begin actual negotiations on a contract in September after the formal enacting date of the legislation.

"Right now, we're listening and learning," Patterson said. "The Daughters have been involved with the Alamo for 106 years more than we have, so we've got a significant learning curve at the Land Office."

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas Board of Management have already met several times with Land Office officials to discuss Alamo operations and familiarize the agency with the shrine's operation.

###